

# BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**COLIN BYRNE, D.P.S.**  
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

January 25, 2022

## **Update COVID Masking Mandate**

Dear Members of the Blind Brook Community,

I am writing to give you the latest update in regards to the wearing of masks in schools. Today, the Office of The Attorney General of the State of New York filed an official order seeking a stay of the Nassau County Supreme Court's decision that the Department of Health exceeded its authority in issuing mask mandates. At 2:00 p.m. today verbal arguments were heard on the stay request at the Appellate Division. This evening I was notified that the judge has issued a temporary stay until January 28th where another hearing will be held.

**This means that mask mandates will be in effect for all schools until Friday.** Mask wearing beyond Friday will be determined by the outcome of Friday's hearing.

I know that this finding will be met with mixed emotions. Many people are tired of masking, distancing and of all of the other things that we have had to deal with during COVID. I feel your frustrations but ask that you continue to be patient.

Sincerely,

Dr. Colin M. Byrne  
Interim Superintendent of School